

URBAN DISTRICT OF WOLVERTON



# ANNUAL REPORT

of the

**Medical Officer of Health**

for the year

**1963**

Principal Address of Medical Officer of Health:  
Area Health Offices, Wilberforce Buildings, 54a Bletchley Road, Bletchley,  
Bucks.

Telephone Number: Bletchley 2507

Local Address:

Public Health Department, Wolverton Urban District Council,  
Council Offices, Market Square, Stony Stratford,  
Wolverton, Bucks.

Telephone Number: Stony Stratford 2371



URBAN DISTRICT OF WOLVERTON

---

# **ANNUAL REPORT**

for the year

**1963**

of the

## **Medical Officer of Health**

---

Chairman of the Council: Councillor F. Atter, J.P.

### **PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE**

Chairman: Councillor Higby

Councillors : BUTTON, CAUSER, CORNFORD, HALL,  
HIGBY, JOHNSON, WAKEFIELD and WILDMAN

### **PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF**

Medical Officer of Health: D. H. WALDRON,

O.B.E., M.D., D.P.H., & H., Col. I.M.S.(Retd.)

(The Medical Officer of Health is also the M.O.H. for Buckingham M.B., and Buckingham R.D.C., Bletchley U.D.C., Newport Pagnell U.D.C., Winslow R.D.C. Area M.O. for North Bucks and Divisional School M.O. for the North Bucks Division and Buckingham and Winslow District).

Deputy M.O.H.: ROBERT M. LASLETT

M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector : D. M. TUCKER, A.R.S.H.

## URBAN DISTRICT OF WOLVERTON

Council Offices,  
Market Square,  
Stony Stratford,  
Wolverton, Bucks.  
3rd July, 1964.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1963.

There was a total of 200 births giving a corrected Birth Rate of 18.3. This is an increase of 2 points over the previous year and is just slightly above that for the rest of the Country.

There were fewer deaths giving a Death Rate of 12.5 which compares favourably with the rate for the country of 12.2. Of the total of 189 deaths, 101 were due to Heart and Allied Diseases and 27 to Cancer. 148 deaths were in the age group of 65 and over.

The Infantile Mortality Rate shows a gratifying drop from the previous year. There were 3 deaths in this group as against 12 in 1962.

I should like to record another year of helpful co-operation with your Clerk, Chief Health Inspector and their staffs.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

D. H. WALDRON,

Medical Officer of Health.



## SECTION A

VITAL STATISTICS	for the year	1962	1963
Area (in acres) .. .. .		4,699	4,699
Population .. .. .		12,990	12,970
Number of Inhabited Houses .. ..		4,599	4,613
Rateable Value (1st April) .. ..		£155,547	£379,365
Sum represented by 1d. Rate .. ..		631	1,550
Rate per £1 .. .. .		25/10	10/2

### BIRTHS

Legitimate: Males .. .. .	95	94
Females .. .. .	84	94
Illegitimate: Males .. .. .	1	6
Females .. .. .	8	6
Birth Rate per 1,000 Population .. ..	16.3	18.3
Birth Rate per 1,000 Population, Bucks County .. .. .	19.2	19.2
Birth Rate per 1,000 Population, England and Wales .. .. .	18.0	18.2
Still Births .. .. .	3	2

### DEATHS

Males .. .. .	100	98
Females .. .. .	103	91
Death Rate per 1,000 Population .. ..	12.6	12.5
Death Rate per 1,000 Population, Bucks County .. .. .	9.6	9.9
Death Rate per 1,000 Population, England and Wales .. .. .	11.9	12.2
Maternal Mortality .. .. .	Nil	Nil
Maternal Mortality, England and Wales	0.35	0.28

### INFANTILE MORTALITY

Deaths of Infants under 1 year per 1,000 Live Births .. .. .	63.8	15.0
Deaths of Infants under 1 year per 1,000 Live Births, Bucks County .. ..	17.9	17.7
Deaths of Infants under 1 year per 1,000 Live Births, England and Wales ..	21.4	20.9

# **PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH**

					1962			1963		
					M	F	T	M	F	T
Tuberculosis, respiratory	..	..	..	..	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tuberculosis, other	..	..	..	..	1	0	1	0	0	0
Cancer	..	..	..	..	15	17	32	17	10	27
Leukaemia	..	..	..	..	0	0	0	1	2	3
Diabetes	..	..	..	..	1	2	3	0	3	3
Cerebral Haemorrhage	..	..	..	..	7	18	25	11	18	29
Heart Diseases	..	..	..	..	39	40	79	35	28	63
Other Circulatory Diseases	..	..	..	..	4	2	6	5	4	9
Influenza	..	..	..	..	0	0	0	1	0	1
Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	8	3	11	7	3	10
Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	6	7	13	6	7	13
Other Respiratory Diseases	..	..	..	..	0	0	0	4	0	4
Digestive Diseases	..	..	..	..	0	1	1	1	1	2
Nephritis	..	..	..	..	0	2	2	0	1	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	..	..	..	..	2	0	2	0	0	0
Congenital Causes	..	..	..	..	2	1	3	1	1	2
Accidents	..	..	..	..	3	3	6	4	6	10
Suicide	..	..	..	..	2	0	2	2	2	4
All other causes	..	..	..	..	10	7	17	3	5	8
					100	103	203	98	91	189

## **SECTION B**

### **GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES**

#### **1. Laboratory Services**

The bacteriological work of the District has been carried out by the Public Health Laboratory at Northampton. Samples for chemical analysis are sent to London.

#### **2. Ambulance Services**

The County Council, who administer this service, have now established a main station at Bletchley with sub-stations at Buckingham, Wolverton and Newport Pagnell. All are radio controlled.

At Bletchley 5 ambulances, 5 dual purpose vehicles, 2 coaches and 1 land rover are maintained. At Wolverton 1 ambulance is stationed. British Railways also maintain an ambulance at the Wolverton Works.

#### **3. Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics**

Clinics are held twice monthly in New Bradwell and Stony Stratford and three times monthly at Wolverton. These clinics are attended by Nurses, Health Visitors and a doctor, and immunizations against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Poliomyelitis and Tetanus were carried out in addition to routine inspections. The total number of attendances by children was 3,516.

A word of thanks and praise must be given to the ladies of the voluntary committee who give so much of their spare time in helping to organise these clinics.

#### **4. Chest Clinic**

The clinic continues to do excellent work in the field of prevention and control of Tuberculosis. Sessions are held twice weekly at The Meacham Clinic and are under the personal supervision of the County Chest Physician.

#### **5. Physiotherapy Clinic**

Administered by Northampton General Hospital, this Clinic functions daily at Wolverton Road, Stony Stratford, and is doing excellent work.

#### **6. Wolverton Diagnostic Clinic**

This clinic, administered by the Northampton General Hospital, is situated at the Meacham Clinic and is attended at various times during the week by Specialists from Northampton.



## **7. Dental Clinic**

Administered by the County Council, this clinic is located at Wolverton and is doing excellent work amongst the school children.

## **8. Nursing Facilities**

As in previous years the District Nurses carried on their excellent and noble work.

## **9. Home Helps Service**

This service, administered by the County Council, now has 3 full time organisers in the North Bucks area, one of whom is centred in Wolverton. During the year 212 cases were assisted.

## **10. Hospital Services**

The majority of cases are sent to the Northampton Group of Hospitals, but some are also admitted to the Aylesbury and Oxford Groups.

# **SECTION C**

## **SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA**

### **Water**

The Bucks Water Board supply and distribute water in the area. Samples of water were regularly submitted for bacteriological examination and in all cases but one the results were satisfactory. Follow-up samples taken from the source which provided the initial unsatisfactory sample showed the minor pollution to be of a transient nature only.

There have been no complaints of unpalatability.

No further action has been taken concerning fluoridation of the water and to date there has been no intimation by the Board of their intention to so do.

The information given below has been obtained from the Bucks Water Board and relates to the water which is distributed by the Bucks Water Board throughout the Urban area.

- (a) The water supplied in the district is from the Foxcote Works and is derived from the River Great Ouse. Daily samples of raw and treated water are examined bacteriologically.



99.0% of all raw water samples contained coliform organisms ranging in numbers from 1 to more than 1,800 per 100 ml. Approximately two-thirds of the coliform organisms are E.Coli, Type I.

99.7% of samples of treated water to supply were free from coliform organisms in 100 ml. and all were free from E.Coli, Type I.

- (b) Short Chemical Analyses are made weekly and full analyses at intervals. A typical analysis of the treated water is given.
- (c) The fluoride content of the water is low, varying from about 0.2 ppm downwards.
- (d) The water is not plumbo-solvent.
- (e) All water supplied is treated by break-point chlorination, coagulation and filtration. The water as supplied contains a small residual of chloromine.

Appearance	..	..	..	..	..	Clear and bright
pH Value	..	..	..	..	..	7.5
Colour	..	..	..	..	..	Less than 5
Turbidity	..	..	..	..	..	Less than 1

(results in parts per million)						
Ammonia Nitrogen	..	..	..	..	..	0.104
Albuminoid Nitrogen	..	..	..	..	..	0.200
Nitrite Nitrogen	..	..	..	..	..	Absent
Nitrate Nitrogen	..	..	..	..	..	3.04
O <sub>2</sub> absorbed from permanganate (3 hours at 37° C.)	..	..	..	..	..	1.44
Free CO <sub>2</sub>	..	..	..	..	..	26
Alkalinity as CaCO <sub>3</sub>	..	..	..	..	..	220
Carbonate Hardness	..	..	..	..	..	220
Non-Carbonate Hardness	..	..	..	..	..	128
Total Hardness	..	..	..	..	..	348
Total Solids (dried at 180° C.)	..	..	..	..	..	528
Calcium, as Ca	..	..	..	..	..	139
Magnesium, as Mg	..	..	..	..	..	—
Sulphate, as SO <sub>4</sub>	..	..	..	..	..	136
Chloride, as Cl	..	..	..	..	..	33
Silica, as SiO <sub>2</sub>	..	..	..	..	..	—
Iron, As Fe: Total Soluble	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Fluoride as F	..	..	..	..	..	..
Residual Chlorine	..	..	..	..	..	0.3

**Public Cleansing**

Collection of house refuse is on a satisfactory basis.

## **Closet Accommodation and Sewage Disposal**

The Minister has asked that all medical officers should include in their reports details about proposed sewage disposal schemes and areas where a water carriage system is lacking.

Since I have been your Medical Officer of Health I have each year drawn the Council's attention to the lack of such a system serving the Wealds of Calverton. In my report last year I stated that I was pleased to note that the Council have included the provision of such a system in the five year programme of Capital Works. It is hoped that next year I will be able to report on the commencement of this work.

## **Shops Act, 1950 (Section 38)**

During the severe months of winter it was necessary to pay close attention to the temperature maintained in shops. In some instances a satisfactory temperature was not maintained but in view of the exceptional weather conditions pertaining at the time the situation generally was very satisfactory.

## **Smoke Abatement**

Strict attention is to be paid to all proposed new installations and a rigid insistence that chimney heights will be of such a height as to ensure, as far as humanly possible, the safe distribution of sulphur dioxide which, of course, is the invisible pollutant and the result of the combustion of all sulphur bearing fuels.

## **Rodent Control**

Work has continued during the year and it has been necessary to carry out a number of treatments to agricultural properties. Many of these have been in hedgerows adjoining lay-bys and undoubtedly these infestations are due to the indiscriminate depositing of litter at such places, a practise which is to be deplored both from the health aspect and the consequent deterioration of amenities.

## INSPECTION AND VISITS

### DWELLINGHOUSES

Number of dwelling houses inspected	..	..	..	..	1,281
-------------------------------------	----	----	----	----	-------

### MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

Number of inspections of butchers' shops	..	..	..	..	106
"      "      "      ,, slaughterhouses	..	..	..	..	15
"      "      "      ,, meat distributors' vehicles	..	..	..	..	64
"      "      "      ,, food shops	..	..	..	..	923

### BAKE HOUSES

Number of inspections	..	..	..	..	521
-----------------------	----	----	----	----	-----

### ICE CREAM RETAILERS

Number of inspections	..	..	..	..	171
-----------------------	----	----	----	----	-----

### ICE CREAM MANUFACTURERS

Number of inspections	..	..	..	..	95
-----------------------	----	----	----	----	----

### FACTORIES AND WORK SHOPS

Number of inspections	..	..	..	..	90
-----------------------	----	----	----	----	----

### PETROLEUM ACTS AND ORDERS

Number of inspections of premises licensed to store petroleum	..	..	..	..	863
---------------------------------------------------------------	----	----	----	----	-----

### CARAVANS AND MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

Number of inspections of caravans and sites	..	..	..	..	181
---------------------------------------------	----	----	----	----	-----

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Number of visits of enquiry	..	..	..	..	110
-----------------------------	----	----	----	----	-----

### SCHOOLS

Number of inspections	..	..	..	..	85
-----------------------	----	----	----	----	----



## SECTION D

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Details are given below of the types of foods voluntarily surrendered for destruction.

Apricots .. ..	41 tins	Mussels .. ..	4 tins
Beans .. ..	19 tins	Oranges .. ..	11 tins
Beans & Sausages	2 tins	Oxtail Soup ..	2 tins
Beef, Topside and Silverside ..	36 lbs.	Pal .. ..	1 tin
Broad Beans ..	3 tins	Peaches .. ..	119 tins
Butter Beans ..	3 tins	Peas .. ..	49 tins
Carrots .. ..	3 tins	Pears .. ..	85 tins
Casserole Steak ..	1 tin	Pilchards .. ..	18 tins
Cherries .. ..	10 tins	Pineapple .. ..	41 tins
Chopped Ham ..	1 tin	Plums .. ..	2 tins
Corned Beef ..	8 tins	Pork Brawn ..	2 tins
Cream .. ..	5 tins	Pork Loin .. ..	14 tins
Creamed Sago ..	5 tins	Pork Roll .. ..	1 tin
Evaporated Milk ..	9 tins	Prunes .. ..	4 tins
Fruit Cocktail ..	5 tins	Raspberries ..	4 tins
Fruit Salad .. ..	29 tins	Ready Grill ..	8 tins
Gammon .. ..	2 tins	Rhubarb .. ..	2 tins
Gooseberries ..	4 tins	Rice Pudding ..	7 tins
Grapefruit .. ..	6 tins	Roes .. ..	1 tin
Ham .. ..	1 tin	Salmon .. ..	8 tins
Herrings .. ..	2 tins	Sausages .. ..	1 tin
Jellied Veal ..	3 tins	Pork .. ..	21½ lbs.
Kidney Soup ..	1 tin	Beef .. ..	14 lbs.
Lambs Tongues ..	4 tins	Sliced Beans ..	1 tin
Loganberries ..	8 tins	Spaghetti .. ..	1 tin
Luncheon Meat ..	7 tins	Steak & Kidney Pudding .. ..	1 tin
Marmalade .. ..	2 tins	Stewed Steak ..	3 tins
Minced Beef ..	1 tin	Tomato Soup ..	4 tins
Mixed Ready ..	2 tins	Tomatoes .. ..	85 tins
Mushroom Soup ..	1 tin	Treacle Sponge ..	1 tin
		Vegetable Soup ..	2 tins

You will see from the above list that the condemnation of food extends over a very wide range. Practically 50% of the condemnations arise from can damage and the consequent deterioration of the food. When one considers the shortage of food throughout the world, I consider that greater attention by the industry should



be given to developing a more robust form of packaging for the transport of tinned goods.

The sampling of food stuffs for bacteriological purposes has been carried out and an attempt has been made to cover as wide as possible a range of food stuffs. Attention is always given to premises situated in the area where shell fish are processed.

Soft Ice Cream

I reported last year that the introduction of soft ice cream vending machines was, in my opinion, a matter to be deplored. However, bacteriological examinations of samples taken from such machines have shown that a high standard is being maintained by the processors and as long as this happy situation continues no objections can be made.

SECTION E  
PRESCRIBED PARTICULARS ON ADMINISTRATION OF  
THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Number of Written Notices</i>	<i>Occupiers Prosecuted</i>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities .. ..	4	23	1	—
(ii) Factories not included in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .. ..	43	64	2	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	2	3	—	—
TOTAL ..	49	90	3	—

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Number of cases in which defects were found</i>		<i>Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted</i>	
	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>Referred To H.M. Inspector</i>	<i>Referred by H.M. Inspector</i>
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—
Ventilation that is inadequate (S.4)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	—	—	—	—

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Number of cases in which defects were found</i>				<i>Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted</i>
	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>Referred to H.M. Inspector</i>	<i>Referred by H.M. Inspector</i>	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	1	1	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	5	5	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>

## SECTION F

### PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

#### 1. General

An epidemic of measles occurred in the first half of the year. This formed part of a general epidemic throughout the country.

#### 2. Notifications

			1962	1963
Scarlet Fever	..	..	1	4
Measles	..	..	54	292
Pneumonia	..	..	3	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	..	..	—	—
Whooping Cough	..	..	—	3
Sonny Dysentary	..	..	—	1

#### 3. Tuberculosis

Five new cases were notified during the year. There were no deaths.

#### 4. Cancer

There were 27 deaths from this disease during the year, 5 less than the previous year. 6 of these were due to Cancer of the lung.



